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SCO BUSINESS FORUM

BRICS BUSINESS FORUM

B20 REGIONAL CONSULTATION FORUM

B20 Regional Consultation Forum

FINANCING GROWTH, INFRASTRUCTURE & INVESTMENT, INTERNATIONAL TRADE

B20 Regional Consultation Forum

EMPLOYMENT, ANTI-CORRUPTION, SMES AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP, EMERGING MARKETS

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

ENERGY SUMMIT

In cooperation with Rosneft

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

SBERBANK PLENARY SESSION. TOPICAL ISSUES OF ANTI-CRISIS POLICY: GOVERNMENT REFORM

In cooperation with Sberbank

The government plays an important role in any country's economy, and its significance for the economy of Russia can hardly be overestimated. Without a coherent government mechanism there can be no successful reform in the economy or the social security, which makes the reform of government the starting point for the changes required. The current situation gives a chance to start delivering on the promises. Firstly, the functions of the federal government must be clearly defined, and the powers must be clearly delineated between the federal government and the authorities on all the other levels. Secondly, a culture of client focus must be inculcated across the federal government. Thirdly, unified procedures of regular performance management must be introduced. Fourthly, human resources must be managed nationwide. A success of this reform will accelerate growth in the medium term. What measures to improve government performance should take priority? How does one achieve consistently higher efficiencies for the state apparatus?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

THE NEW DEVELOPMENT BANK: A STRONGER ROLE FOR BRICS IN THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE

The BRICS economies have jointly established a $100 billion development bank to be based in

Shanghai. What does this new institution mean for global economic management, and what are some of the key areas of focus over the medium term?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION: A NEW COMPASS IN GLOBAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

The Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) Treaty has come into force this year. The EEU was founded by Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia, Kyrgyzstan joins the union soon. The EEU is the first integration association between countries of the former Soviet Union that is recognized by the global community. The new generation integration-based cooperation format corresponds to the contemporary trend of global regionalization. How does the EEU, in conjunction with other regional initiatives, promote economic integration and create new opportunities for its member states? Is a currency union of the EEU an ambition or reality? What are the possible ways of strengthening cooperation between the EEU and other regional economic associations? What is the view of trade partners on the EEU?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

SHIFTING LANDSCAPE USHERS IN A NEW ERA FOR GLOBAL OIL AND GAS MARKETS

A decrease in demand for energy coupled with structural changes in supply as well as shifts in the political climate have altered prices and impacted investment and extraction strategies worldwide. What does this mean for the sector over the medium and long term?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

ECONOMISTS' ROUNDTABLE: A FIVE-YEAR PROGNOSIS – THE END OF GROWTH?

Several major economies continue to pursue an increasingly less coordinated monetary policy. How will this affect the investment climate and the overall stability of the global financial system? What impact might this have on the main emerging markets in particular? What is the medium-term outlook for the global economic growth?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

NUCLEAR POWER IN THE NEW GLOBAL ENERGY MIX

In cooperation with Rosatom

The IAEA projects that growth to 2030 in the nuclear energy sector will primarily stem from the build out of new plants in countries that are installing their first facilities. What particular steps and preparations should suppliers take to ease the facilitation of nuclear power to first-timers? What supporting role should the IAEA play in this regard? What concrete measures should be put in place to ensure the safe expansion of nuclear energy into new economies?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

INTEGRATING EUROPEAN, RUSSIAN AND ASIAN POWER SECTORS - BOUNDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

In cooperation with Rosseti

The integration of national power systems to form more efficient cross-border solutions holds many potential economic benefits, but executing such projects is challenging and complex. What kinds of infrastructure, management, knowhow, labour and geopolitical barriers must be overcome? How might technological advances create new opportunities in integration, and what are the appropriate roles for government and the business sectors in building success?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

TRANSFORMATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE: REALIZING MEGA PROJECTS

Major projects such as the Nicaragua Canal, the Power of Siberia, the Turkish Stream gas pipeline, and the railways in the Eastern Polygon - as well as other global infrastructure developments – promise to change the global economic landscape. Yet these initiatives require billions of dollars in investment and present enormous challenges, as well as huge potential benefits. What steps can international organizations and the public sector take to reduce the risks associated with mega projects? How can financing be best secured for the implementation of these projects?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

CHINA'S ECONOMIC REVAMP AND THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON GLOBAL DEMAND

In cooperation with En+

China's GDP growth has recently slowed, the country faces substantial deleveraging challenges and there is a need to further spur domestic consumption. Yet these changes may put China on a more sustainable growth trajectory. How is China's economic restructuring strategy likely to impact global demand, and what is at stake for investors and business worldwide? What are the potential risks as China continues its restructuring program?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

INTERNATIONAL TRADE: GLOBALIZATION OR REGIONALIZATION?

In recent years, global trade has experienced sluggish growth of around 3% to 4% annually, markedly slower than previous long-term trends. Is global trade entering a period of secular low growth? Is regional trade integration a viable alternative to international multilateral regulation or is it the only way to promote and deepen cooperation on a global basis? How might other initiatives, such as targeted investment in trade capacity and the expansion of free trade zones, spur the growth in trade?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

ESTABLISHING GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS TO ADDRESS OFF-SHORE CORPORATE STRUCTURES: WHO STANDS TO BENEFIT?

In cooperation with EY

Developed economies and international organizations alike have waged a war against the use of offshore structures to avoid taxes. Over the past years many economies have sought to better coordinate tax and bank regulation and institute international treaties to address the issue. Nevertheless, according to the United Nations, about 90 economies continue to promote development of offshore tax shelters. What measures are proving most effective in addressing the issue? How can business be incentivized to forgo the adoption of offshore schemes?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

THE UNABATED GROWTH OF E-COMMERCE – HOW WILL IT RESHAPE GLOBAL RETAIL MARKETS

Online sales reached $1.5 trillion worldwide in 2014 and it is projected to continue strong expansion over the coming years. More sophisticated interfaces, enhanced payment systems, improved logistics and better mobile phone apps are, taken together, spurring a major shift in retail behavior. Will established retailers with e-commerce extensions dominate the space or can pure-play e-commerce players take the majority of market share? What further innovations in online retailing are likely to come to market in the coming 2–3 years?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

GLOBAL FINANCE AS A COMMONS – GUARANTOR OR THREAT TO STABILITY?

In cooperation with VTB Capital

Over the past half-century, policymakers have successfully created an international system of trade and finance that has spurred globalization and brought greater prosperity to large proportions of the world's populations. But if this same system is used as a principal weapon in political disputes, e.g. barring a country from the use of SWIFT, do we risk a fragmentation of global finance and a retarding of globalization's benefits? How might these policies spur the diversification of reserve currencies?

Global Economy: New Challenges and Shifting Horizons

CLIMATE CHANGE: ECONOMIC ASPECTS

In cooperation with Deloitte

The largest global contributors of greenhouse gases impacting climate change have recently indicated that they are now prepared to introduce more concrete measures to curtail emissions. With climate change taking an increasingly important role in bilateral relations amongst the largest economies, can we expect this to translate into new global agreements to manage climate-related risks? Should we expect climate issues to play an increasingly significant role in global economic decision-making in the coming years?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL INVESTMENT CLIMATE RATING FOR THE RUSSIAN REGIONS

The national rating of investment climate in the constituent entities of the Russian Federation is designed to assess the effectiveness of efforts made by all levels of the government to improve the conditions for doing business in the respective regions. The ratings serve not only as a gauge of these efforts, but also as an effective tool for identifying and replicating the best practices employed when working with investors. A pilot testing of the rating of 21 regions was conducted in 2014. Based on the results, what actions should be taken by regional governments to improve the climate and what are some of the specific innovations and policy measures that may be replicated across a variety of regions?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

INVESTMENT IN RUSSIA: NEW CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN CHANGED REALITIES

Russia 24 TV Channel Teledebates

In light of recent events in the geopolitical arena, the need has arisen for fundamental changes in the Russian economy. This facilitates the emergence of new opportunities, because businesses are altering their strategies to adapt to these changes. Import substitution is on the rise, as are the development and expansion of domestic industrial production in industries that previously survived on imports. Which geopolitical factors influence investor strategy? Do foreign investors have greater opportunities to invest as a result of this? Which industries stand to benefit the most?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

"NEVER LET A GOOD CRISIS GO TO WASTE": ADDRESSING RUSSIA'S STRUCTURAL ECONOMIC DILEMMAS

While low oil prices and sanctions have created a drag on growth, Russia must also address a number of structural challenges if it is to put the economy back on a strong expansion trajectory. What are practical confidence-building measures that the Russian government should undertake to spur improvements in the business and investment environments and what is the model of growth for the coming decade?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

THE RUSSIAN REGIONS' GROWTH FORMULA: FREEDOM TO EXPERIMENT

In cooperation with Bank for Development and Foreign Economic Affairs (Vnesheconombank)

To expand domestic productive capability, Russia must rely on the dynamic capabilities and entrepreneurial spirit of business leaders. However, supporting policies that assure ample access to finance and free movement of labour – along with incentives for local governments to be innovative in delivering needed social infrastructure – are just a few of precursors to provide the right foundation for success. Which regions have found success in offering the right formula to attract investment and sustain growth and how can these models be replicated in other regions?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

RUSSIAN INDUSTRIAL POLICY: WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES?

In cooperation with UC RUSAL

Russian policymakers have made the transition from an economy heavily dependent upon commodity exports to a more diversified model characterized by innovative, value-added production a priority objective. What industries stand to first benefit from such a restructuring? How might such a strategy position Russia in the global division of production? What practical measures should be first taken to bring this industrial policy to fruition?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

REALIZING RUSSIA'S POTENTIAL AS A GLOBAL CHAMPION IN FOOD PROVISION

In cooperation with PepsiCo

Russia has enormous untapped potential that will make it possible to meet much of the next generation's growing demand for food once unlocked. What practical and even radical approaches may help to achieve a breakthrough in this industry? What are the opportunities for and potential downsides to using state support for production of organic foods as Russia shifts gears in agricultural output?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

INFLATION, GROWTH AND CURRENCY STABILITY: THE CENTRAL BANK'S DILEMMA

The fall in global oil prices coupled with a fall in the rouble have dealt a double blow to Russian finance, and there is a risk that the rise in inflation coupled with high interest rates will continue to hinder the economy. What steps are being taken to shore up Russian banks and what additional measures are required to shore up stability? What strategies should monetary policymakers pursue as they balance the need to both stimulate growth and curb inflation?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

THE BIG SHIFT TO DOMESTIC SOURCING OF CAPITAL

In cooperation with Gazprombank (Joint-Stock Company)

Long dependent upon global investment funds for corporate financing, Russia is shifting to a more diversified approach with an increase in domestic public capital markets as a primary source of funding. What steps should be taken to secure the availability of funds? How can this change the methods used to finance infrastructure projects?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

SMES AS COMPETITIVE DISRUPTORS TO SPUR ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY

Small and medium businesses have the potential to play a much more significant role in Russian growth

story, particularly as the country emerges from an economic downturn and restructuring. But to tap the full potential of the SME sector, regulatory reform is needed. What steps should the government take to unleash growth in SMEs? How can an increase in SME share of economic activity spur greater competition and productivity in the overall economy?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

THE IMPERATIVE TO SPUR COMPETITIVE FACTORS AND INCENTIVIZE EFFICIENCIES

Bureaucratic red tape, under developed infrastructure and finance sectors, as well as the need to create greater competitive pressures for state-owned corporations are just few of the key issues policymakers face as they seek to raise Russia's competitiveness. What measures should the government take to boost competition? What confidence-building measures would give the business sector a sense that the competitive environment will see improvements?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

DILEMMAS IN REGULATORY REFORMS FOR MORE EFFECTIVE LAND MANAGEMENT

Land is a strategic resource for expansion of the Russian economy, yet lengthy title registration procedures and red tape hamper investments and development for both companies and individuals. This has not only harmed the overall investment environment, but also significantly reduced tax revenues at all levels. What effective land management measures can stimulate economic development in the regions? Does Russia need a land reform?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

MODERNIZATION AND ENERGY SAVING IN RUSSIA: FORCED MEASURES OR NEW OPPORTUNITIES?

Russian businesses are under pressure to revamp operations and significantly improve efficiency. At the same time, government-owned and natural monopolies are expected to further cut costs and review their investment programs given the sagging economy. Can the difficult circumstances be a catalyst for reform and create investment opportunities for private capital in the state sector, particularly in energy efficiency projects? How can the Russian government and regional authorities support steps to enhance efficiency?

Russia: Seizing the Opportunities

EFFECTIVE STATE: A MEANS OR A RESULT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHANGE?

Effective state institutions are a necessary condition for creating a favourable business climate, increasing investment, and stimulating healthy competition - which together translate into better goods and services and higher standards of living. In turn, strong economic development and healthy welfare standards are fundamental to a successful, vibrant public sector. How should approaches to good governance effectively balance these two objectives? What steps should be taken to improve governance and how should success be measured?

Developing Human Capital and Expertise

THE AGING SOCIETY: MAINTAINING PRODUCTIVITY AS DEMOGRAPHICS SHIFT

Many of the economies that have been the principal drivers of global growth over the past 30 years are going to experience a large expansion of retirees in the coming decades. What are the public policy initiatives that can spur and accelerate private sector products and services needed to meet the challenges of this broad demographic trend? Is a rise in labour productivity sufficient to compensate for a proportional rise in dependents? Should adjustments to the retirement age be made? What other

measures are needed?

Developing Human Capital and Expertise

THE DEMAND FOR DEVELOPING SKILLS: STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS

Global market transformation and rapid technological development are forcing companies to focus increasingly on hiring and training highly skilled employees who can easily adapt to change.

However, potential employees may not always have the requisite education and skills to perform their duties effectively. The gap between demand and supply for human resources in various industries is widening in both the management sector and the real economy.

How can state educational institutions and companies collaborate more effectively in order to raise the professional level of young specialists? Which approaches can guarantee that future market requirements are evaluated properly and ensure a return on investment in education in order to satisfy the demands of the economy? What steps should be taken to ensure that highly skilled employees are trained to keep up with the development of high-tech industries?

Developing Human Capital and Expertise

IMMIGRATION POLICY: AVOIDING A SKILLS MISFIT TRAP

An effective approach to employee immigration can have a major impact on global labour markets and is an important element to maintaining competitiveness. While immigrants can satisfy shortfalls in manpower, without the correct benchmark qualifications this influx can create labour market imbalances. At the same time, competition for highly qualified specialists is heating up. What policy measures can be instituted to strengthen individual labour markets? What approaches can be taken to attract skilled workers to an economy?

Developing Human Capital and Expertise

WHAT IS THE PRICE OF YOUR HEALTH?

Close co-operation between the scientific community, technology companies and business are creating new innovative and more cost-effective approaches to healthcare in Russia. How does closer collaboration across a range of scientific disciplines coupled with new business models have the potential to transform the healthcare system? What case studies in scientific, technological and business collaboration might serve as a broader framework and model to be replicated across additional healthcare applications? Where is private sector financing of healthcare innovation proving most effective?

Developing Human Capital and Expertise

EXECUTING PHILANTHROPIC STRATEGIES IN TIMES OF STRESS

During the period of rapid economic growth, many business owners and large companies established an array of philanthropic projects and programs. In the current economic climate, when business operations must curtail core investment programs and reduce costs across the board, can these charitable activities be maintained? Are there international approaches, where philanthropy in times of economic stress was maintained, which might be applicable today?

Developing Human Capital and Expertise

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL GROWTH OF THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY

Better utilizing human capital potential and instilling value-added, knowledge-based production are critical elements to creating a sustainable economy and a prosperous contemporary society. What is

Russia's natural position in the global knowledge economy and how can it expand upon this potential? What policy measures should Russia put in place to stimulate knowledge-based growth over the medium and long terms?

Disruptors: Trends and Technologies

THE FUTURE OF THE ELECTRONIC WALLET AND THE MODERNIZATION OF GLOBAL PAYMENT PLATFORMS

From retail payments via mobile devices to national payment systems, the way in which we spend our money is changing rapidly. How are innovations in payment methods being married with independent settlement platforms to offer new payment, digital currencies and transaction platforms? What might this mean for businesses and consumers, and what are the risks and opportunities for enhanced security as innovations in payment platforms take effect?

Disruptors: Trends and Technologies

EFFECTIVE FRAMEWORKS FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

As industry looks at options to retain domestic production or shift production abroad, the efficient transfer of technologies takes on added importance. How is Russian industry complementary to and able to compete for positions in global production chains? What strategies should enterprises pursue to obtain and adopt the best available technologies to improve production? Are the current regulations in place an impediment to innovation or a driver of technological development?

Disruptors: Trends and Technologies

3D PRINTING: REVOLUTIONIZING PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

While there has been a lot of hype in 3D printing, its wide-scale application is only now being felt in certain sectors ranging from oil and gas, medical devices, dentistry and aeronautics to consumer goods. When one can conceivably print anything, what is the opportunity for 3D printing on the consumer level? Which industry sectors will take up 3D printing applications next and how might mass customization approaches revolutionize manufacturing as we know it?

Disruptors: Trends and Technologies

THE COMING REVOLUTION IN TRANSPORT

In cooperation with KAMAZ

As modern transport becomes packed with sensors, Internet and software systems, the distinguishing features and value proposition for vehicles is shifting increasingly to the sophistication of the interactive systems – in compliment to sound hardware engineering. Is this integration of more digitized vehicles changing the economics and profit margins in transport manufacturing? How might the participation of digital tech giants impact the sector? What changes to train, automotive and new modes of vehicles, such as consumer drones, are we likely to witness over the medium term?

Disruptors: Trends and Technologies

BUILDING EFFECTIVE CYBER SECURITY SYSTEMS

With high-profile cases of attacks and numerous examples of theft of sensitive corporate and personal data, cyber security is becoming a top priority for both governments and boardrooms. What is the appropriate balance between public sector preventative measures and private sector responsibilities to invest in enhanced protection? What cyber security strategies – both at the national and corporate levels – are proving most effective? And how can international cooperation help win the war against cyber threat?

Disruptors: Trends and Technologies

HYPER-SPEED CHANGE IN THE FILM INDUSTRY – DOES ANYONE HAVE A STRATEGY?

The growing importance and financial clout of 'streaming' distribution of movies is just one of the latest examples of technology-based disruption impacting the sector. With traditional models in production, distribution and viewer preference all being challenged due to technological changes, how should the film industry respond? What is the strategic vision for the sector for the next ten years?

Disruptors: Trends and Technologies

PROTECTING YOUR EVER-EXPANDING DIGITAL SELF – IS AN INTERNET BILL OF RIGHTS NEEDED?

In cooperation with Closed Joint-Stock Company TransTeleCom

From deleting unwanted online photos, controlling the unsolicited collection of personal data and theft of personal data, management of personal digital information is an increasing concern. How should business and government respond to these security issues?

Disruptors: Trends and Technologies

THE NEXT STAGE IN DEVELOPING IP MARKET FORCES

Intellectual property remains one of the most important components for evaluating a business and is a critical element of economic performance as a whole. Governments keep improving IP laws, offering new mechanisms for protection. Which measures have already proved effective and which need improvement? Are there any additional ways to enhance protection that have not been implemented yet? How will global integration affect protection of intellectual property rights?

Disruptors: Trends and Technologies

INVESTING IN SCIENCE – A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

Innovation in modern high technology applications has often benefited from massive R&D investments as well as substantial public sector basic science expenditures. Given the difficult economic climate, can businesses be expected to maintain heavy funding for scientific and technology development? What is the correct balance between public support of basic scientific research and private sector R&D? How can new models in international collaboration and co-investment schemes mitigate the costs and risks in R&D?

Briefing
THE NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

Briefing
A NATIONAL PAYMENT SYSTEM – A STEP TOWARDS STRENGTHENING STABILITY

ECONOMIC POLICY BRIEFINGS BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Business Roundtable
RUSSIA- INDIA: STRENGTHENING BILATERAL ECONOMIC TIES AMIDST GLOBAL TURMOIL

Business Roundtable
EUROPEAN UNION — EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION AS A FORMULA FOR COOPERATION

Business Roundtable
RUSSIA – TURKEY: REACHING AN ENTIRELY NEW LEVEL

Business Roundtable
RUSSIA – CHINA: BUSINESS, STRATEGIC AND ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

Business Roundtable
LATIN AMERICA: GLOBALIZATION AND NEW POWERHOUSES

Business Roundtable
RUSSIA – NORTH AMERICA: FROM ANTI-CRISIS MEASURES TO STRUCTURAL REFORMS

Business Roundtable
RUSSIA – FINLAND

Business Roundtable
RUSSIA AND ITALY: HISTORICAL TIES TOO IMPORTANT FOR BOTH COUNTRIES TO EXIST WITHOUT EACH OTHER

The aim of the Round table discussion is to clarify the status quo of political and economic relations between Italy and Russia, and also to deepen the dialogue between two countries about links that unite them, especially during the period of geopolitical tensions and economic instability in the international context. Government representatives, public and private entrepreneurs, bankers from Russia and Italy were invited to analyze the real possibilities of bilateral and multilateral political mediation, as well as to pinpoint the real economic sectors, in order to contribute to the establishment of the successful dialogue and realistic view on international relations to stimulate investments and commercial relations, that could help to create wealth and prosperity for our two countries.

Business Breakfast
THE IT INDUSTRY'S NEW REALITIES: EXPORT POSSIBILITIES AND THE APPEAL OF THE DOMESTIC MARKET

Business Breakfast
RUSSIA'S PHARMACEUTICAL SECTOR: GENERATING GROWTH?

With the Russian pharmaceutical market projected to grow at an annual rate of up to 11% by 2017 reaching USD 33 bn in turnover, Russia is a must-have market for global pharma players. What are the key steps and market conditions that will best position Russia as it enters this critical phase in investment and growth?

Business Breakfast
BUSINESS BREAKFAST WITH THE HEADS OF THE BRICS EXPORT AGENCIES

In views of strengthening cooperation between BRICS ECAs based on the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation signed last year during the BRICS Summit in Fortaleza (Brazil), EXIAR initiates a new platform for comprehensive dialogue on trade - annual meetings of BRICS ECAs CEOs in a threshold of the summits. Recommendations of the respective gatherings will form a part of the Declaration of the upcoming summit in Ufa (Russia) in July 2015. The first meeting is to take place during the SPIEF 2015.

VALDAI CLUB SESSION GLOBAL AGENDA: GAME WITHOUT RULES?

MEDIA SUMMIT

CONVERSATIONS WITH EXTRAORDINARY

GLOBAL ENERGY AWARDS CEREMONY

DEVELOPMENT PRIZE AWARDS CEREMONY